

May 1, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, very briefly, this is my motion to override yesterday that we are now reconsidering in hopes of getting the additional three votes and I would just say briefly that this is an important bill and a significant bill because rules and regulations are the law and the law should be readily available and free and ready access to every citizen in the state of Nebraska. We don't have it now. That is the issue involved here. The cost is minimal for that which should really be considered a basic right, if a person is going to be governed by laws and rules and regulations. He should have free and ready access to find them, to peruse them and to study them and understand them, and not necessarily or ever be subject to receiving that law that governs him from the person who is charged with administering the law which is the way the system is now. I'd urge you to reconsider our action.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the move for the override and let me put it in a different context. We heard this bill in the Committee I was in. My first reaction to it was probably the same as some of yours as, gee, that's awfully expensive to do that but in this session I think we have dealt with rules and regulations more than any session that I have known of. 403 has regulations to go with it which everyone must be cognizant of. Parents of mentally handicapped children may want to review those. 302, mental health, there is extensive rules and regulations. Almost any law that we pass anymore, we are getting to the point where the rules and regulations, probably, are a large substance of it, and as a general rule, some of those are not readily available to the citizenry and as I heard the arguments develop for that, it became increasingly important to me to realize that we must do this like sometimes we do the Nebraska statutes, which all of us have copies of at taxpayers expense, that this needs to be available to the public because of the tremendous importance, any more, of the rules and regulations. I believe that the Governor, with all respect, has chosen the wrong issue at the wrong time. I think that it is very important for public information, particularly, public information that has a very important effect on the lives of the citizenry. I believe the issue made here in the interest of frugality is an invalid one and the override should be consummated.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I, too, was on that Committee and I was on the short end of the voting. I don't belittle the importance of rules and regulations but I have never been denied rules and regulations in any office that I was ever interested in where I inquired of such. I think the Governor is right on this. I think we sent a lot of information all over the state that is never looked at. I received books, I have received booklets since I have been here of every nature and I don't think that it is necessary. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kennedy.